

Message Text

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14

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEA-10 IO-14 EB-11 ACDA-19 AF-10 SAJ-01

CCO-00 SSO-00 DODE-00 USSS-00 INRE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SPC-03 SS-20 DRC-01 /144 W

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O R 201216Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3234

WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION USUN

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WHITE HOUSE PLEASE PASS TO SECRETARY'S PLANE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UR, US, XF

SUBJ: SOVIET PRESS ON ME

1. SUMMARY. SOVIET PRESS FOCUSES MORE SHARPLY ON U.S. SUPPLY EFFORT TO ISRAEL. BATTLE REPORTS CONTINUE TO STRESS ARAB SUCCESSES. BEIRUT PRESS ACCOUNTS OF ISRAELI ACTIONS AGAINST LEBANON ARE CARRIED. IZVESTIYA ARTICLE ASSERTS THAT OIL SHORTAGE IS SOURCE OF DIVISION BETWEEN U.S. AND ITS ALLIES. RADIO MOSCOW IS CARRYING WHITE HOUSE ANNOUNCEMENT OF SECRETARY'S VISIT TO MOSCOW TO DISCUSS ME QUESTIONS. END SUMMARY.

2. PRAVDA OCTOBER 20 CITES U.S. PRESS TO EFFECT U.S. IS SENDING ISRAEL MILITARY SUPPLIES IN "UNLIMITED QUANTITIES," INCLUDING NEW ANTI-TANK MISSILES WHICH WERE USED IN VIET NAM WAR. PRAVDA CITES LITTLE
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ROCK TV STATION REPORT THAT ISRAELI 707'S AND 747'S

ARE COLLECTING ROCKETS, BOMBS, AND OTHER ARMS DAILY FROM NEARBY BASE AND THAT U.S. C-5A'S ARE INVOLVED IN AIRLIFT. PRAVDA CARRIES TASS REPORT THAT PENTAGON SPOKESMAN SAID U.S. HAS SENT MILITARY SUPPORT PERSONNEL TO ISRAEL TO RECEIVE U.S. FLIGHTS. SPOKESMAN CITED AS DECLINING TO GIVE EXACT NUMBER OF U.S. MILITARY PERSONNEL IN ISRAEL BUT SAYING IT IS MINIMUM NECESSARY TO SERVICE SUPPLY FLIGHTS. PRAVDA WRITER TAKES OFF FROM REUTERS STORY OF ISRAELI RECRUITMENT OF U.S. PILOTS FOR \$5000 A MONTH TO CONCLUDE: "BUSINESS IN BLOOD--YET ANOTHER TOUCH WHICH UNMASKS THE FACE OF THE ISRAELI AGGRESSORS."

3. IZVESTIYA OCTOBER 19 FRONT-PAGES SPECIAL REPORT FROM DAMASCUS WHICH STATES: "IN ARAB WORLD THEY CONTINUE TO CONDEMN SHARPLY U.S. ACTIONS, IN PARTICULAR THE SENATE DECISION ON EFFORTS TO SUPPORT TEL AVIV. HERE THEY EMPHASIZE THAT THIS CAN ONLY CONTRIBUTE TO ENFLAMING THE MILITARY CONFLICT." UNDER HEADLINE "THEY ARE ARMING THE AGGRESSORS" IZVESTIYA CARRIES MOST OF ITEMS NOTED PARAGRAPH 2, PLUS ANA REPORT THAT MOSHE DAYAN LED SECRET MILITARY MISSION TO U.S. AND THAT ITS REQUESTS WERE SATISFIED.

4. TASS REPORTS BASED ON ARAB SOURCES EMPHASIZE ARAB MILITARY STRENGTH AND SUCCESSES. PRAVDA RUNS BEIRUT PRESS REPORTS OF FURTHER ISRAELI INCURSIONS INTO LEBANESE AIRSPACE AND SHELLING OF LEBANESE VILLAGES. PRAVDA ALSO QUOTES BEIRUT DAILY STAR AS SAYING ISRAELI ACTIONS AGAINST LEBANON OVER LAST WEEK HAVE INCREASED SIGNIFICANTLY.

5. IZVESTIYA ARTICLE BASED ON WESTERN PRESS ACCOUNTS DESCRIBES GROWING SERIOUSNESS OF ENERGY SHORTAGE FOR THE U.S., JAPAN, AND EUROPE. ARTICLE ASSERTS THAT EMERGING ARAB WILLINGNESS TO USE OIL AS A POLITICAL WEAPON IS CAUSING DIVISION ON OIL POLICY AMONG U.S., JAPAN, AND WEST EUROPE AND WITHIN U.S. ITSELF. ARTICLE QUOTES NEWSWEEK TO EFFECT THAT, ONCE COMPETITION OVER OIL BEGINS, IT WILL BE ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO PREVENT ITS BECOMING A POLITICAL AND DIPLOMATIC WAR
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WHICH MAY SHATTER SYSTEM OF POST-WAR ALLIANCES OF U.S. WITH WESTERN EUROPE AND JAPAN.

6. SOVIET MEDIA HAVE REFRAINED FROM DIRECT REFERENCE TO USSR RESUPPLYING OF ARABS, BUT THEY HAVE QUOTED MCCLOSKEY ON U.S. DESIRE TO PRESERVE MILITARY BALANCE AND THEY HAVE POINTED WITH PRIDE TO ARAB USE OF SOVIET TRAINING AND WEAPONRY. LEONTYEV PIECE IN RED STAR,

OCTOBER 20, FOR EXAMPLE, ASSERTED THAT EVEN GOLDA MEIR
PAID TRIBUTE TO ARAB SOLDIERS, IN TRAINING OF WHOM
SOVIET MILITARY SPECIALISTS PARTICIPATED, AND TO
QUALITY OF SOVIET WEAPONS IN ARAB ARMIES.

7. PRESS OCTOBER 20 CARRIES PAGE ONE TASS ITEM
ANNOUNCING KOSYGIN VISIT TO CAIRO OCTOBER 16-19 AND
MEETING WITH SADAT. NO FURTHER DETAILS GIVEN.
DUBS

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